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versity, who notes the fact that the Greeks originally were sympathetic lovers of nature, till Socrates and Plato, who, "with the purest and best of motives, unconsciously did the race a disservice that became a bar to progress for the ages to follow." The mind can make any hypothesis so there was no trouble to attain any required definitions, "and to defend the whole of these it was necessary to do away with the rest of the universe." These "innocent diversions of Plato," were followed by Aristotle, to whom "mental flights were more attractive than his studies of bugs and fishes." Then follow many other systems evolved from the "lazy philosophy of Plato," but pure thinking, which spread over the world like cobwebs over the lawn on a summer's day, all inspired by Plato. Despite many hopeful signs, these conceptions and methods hang like the old man of the sea upon the neck of the present. Now science is changing all this.

Any well trained student in the history of philosophy will recognize the partial truth of the above, and if he has read Lange's Positivism vs. Idealism, he may detect a similar spirit here, but the author's extreme onesidedness; the surprising lack of historical perspective; his failure to recognize one of the axioms of evolution as applied to man; to say nothing of the fact that Plato was never so much studied as to-day, and that by men as much in sympathy with physiological and biological sciences as himself, altogether make this a very strange note to be sounding at a university commencement.

Moderne Nervosität und ihre Vererbung, von CH. FÉRÉ. Berlin, 1898. pp. 284.

The influence of heredity upon the origin of mental and nervous diseases are—this assumes that there is no nervous disease not connected with anatomical change, and the author undertakes to apply the general laws of biology in this field to pathology. Many diseases and malformations are considered, and even epilepsy and hysteria, it is assumed, must have a physical and transmissible basis. To establish his thesis, the author at the outset makes very material qualifications of the extreme views of Weismann and his followers; lays considerable stress upon the mutability of nervous diseases, especially these transmitted from one generation to the next; and undertakes in some respects to suggest morbid equivalents. He believes that all degenerative tendencies can be successfully combated, provided there is a fit hygiene of propagation which consists mainly in systematic rest beforehand and the most favorable nutritive conditions. The author's repertory of casualistic material is large, and twenty interesting cuts of inherited abnormalities and deformities are given.

Archives of Neurology and Psychopathology. Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2. 1898.

This new archive is most sumptuously bound and printed, and is to be published in four annual numbers per volume, price, \$3 a year. It is to be published under the auspices of the New York State Hospital and the Pathological Institute, by permission of the State Commission in Lunacy. It is to be edited for the former by Drs. G. A. Blumer, C. W. Pilgrim and S. H. Talcott; and for the latter by Drs. Ira van Gieson, Boris Sidis and H. B. Deady. The longest and most important article in the present number is entitled, "The Correlation of Sciences in the Investigation of Nervous and Mental Diseases," by Ira van Gieson, which occupies about 235 pages. A briefer preliminary communication by Van Gieson and Sidis on "Neuron Energy and its Psychomotor Manifestations," makes up the entire number. The archives will contain studies on abnormal mental life and their neural concomitants based on psychology, psychopathology, experimental